American Resilience Garden Initiative

Policy Proposal Draft v1.0

A National Framework for Household & Community Food Resilience

Executive Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is a voluntary, non-partisan national framework designed to strengthen food security, improve household resilience, and promote local food production across the United States.

This initiative establishes a tiered system beginning with a Starter Kit distributed to households, followed by expanded opportunities including fruit trees, pollinator support, small livestock access, school programs, and community food infrastructure.

The program prioritizes:

- Urban and rural food deserts
- Low-income households
- Community resilience
- Local agricultural education
- Environmental sustainability

The initiative is structured to remain:

- Voluntary
- Lean
- Locally adaptable
- Cost-efficient
- Scalable

I. Purpose & Objectives

The American Resilience Garden Initiative seeks to:

Primary Objectives

1. Improve household food security
2. Reduce food deserts
3. Lower household food costs
4. Increase agricultural literacy
5. Improve nutritional access
6. Strengthen local food systems
7. Enhance national resilience

Secondary Objectives

1. Improve pollinator populations
2. Increase community cohesion
3. Encourage local composting
4. Improve soil health
5. Support local agriculture

II. Program Structure

The initiative consists of six core programs:

1. American Resilience Garden Starter Kit Program
2. Fruit Tree & Berry Program
3. Pollinator Program
4. Small Livestock Program
5. School & Education Program
6. Community & Civic Garden Program

III. Program 1 — American Resilience Garden Starter Kit

Purpose

The Starter Kit serves as the foundational tier of the American Resilience Garden Initiative, providing households with a low-barrier entry point into food production.

The Starter Kit is designed to:

- Work for apartments and homes
- Require minimal space
- Provide beginner-friendly growing options
- Encourage long-term participation

Starter Kit Components

Each eligible household receives:

1. Small Raised Container

Examples:

- Fabric grow bed
- Compact raised container
- Small planter box

Specifications:

- Apartment friendly
- Lightweight
- Durable

2. Local Soil / Compost / Perlite Blend

Produced locally using:

- Municipal compost
- Leaf compost
- Local soil
- Perlite or aeration material

Example Blend:

- 50% compost
- 30% soil
- 20% aeration material

Benefits:

- Lower cost
- Local resource use
- Improved soil quality

3. Basic Seed Starter Pack

Recommended Crops:

- Lettuce
- Spinach
- Tomatoes
- Green onions
- Beans
- Herbs

Design Criteria:

- Beginner-friendly
- Fast-growing
- High success rate

4. Strawberry Production Bucket

Includes:

- 5-gallon bucket with growing pockets
- 15 ever-bearing strawberry plants

Benefits:

- Perennial production
- High yield
- Apartment compatible

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

- Child-friendly

IV. Cost Structure

Target cost:

$50 per household

Estimated Breakdown:

Component	Cost
Raised container	$15
Soil blend	$5
Seeds	$3
Strawberry bucket	$12
Distribution/Admin	$15
Total	$50

V. Funding Structure

Federal Allocation

Funds allocated to states based on population:

$50 per household

Funds distributed to:

State Resilience Garden Fund

VI. State Resilience Garden Fund

Each state establishes:

State Resilience Garden Fund

Requirements:

- Funds restricted to program use
- Interest-generating accounts
- Rollover funding allowed
- Long-term sustainability

VII. Implementation Structure

State Level

Each state establishes:

Resilience Garden Program Office

(Within Department of Agriculture)

Requirements:

- Lean staffing
- Transparent reporting
- Minimal bureaucracy

Local Level

Each county or municipality appoints:

Resilience Garden Coordinator

Responsibilities:

- Distribution
- Local partnerships
- Education
- Reporting

VIII. Rollout Phases

Phase 1 — Priority Deployment

Target:

- Urban food deserts
- Rural food deserts
- Low-income areas

Phase 2 — Expanded Eligibility

Eligible:

- General population
- Excluding highest-income households

Phase 3 — Universal Access

Eligible:

- All residents

IX. Residency Verification

To ensure fairness:

Applicants must provide:

Acceptable Documentation:

- State ID
- Utility bill
- Lease agreement
- Tax documentation

Rules:

- One kit per household

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

- Must be resident of state
- No out-of-state distribution

X. Program 2 — Fruit Tree & Berry Program

Household Fruit & Berry Program

Eligible:

- Homeowners
- Renters (with permission)
- Container growers

Eligible Plants:

Fruit Trees:

- Apple
- Pear
- Peach
- Plum
- Cherry
- Persimmon
- Pawpaw

Berry Shrubs:

- Blueberry
- Blackberry
- Raspberry
- Elderberry
- Currants
- Serviceberry

Civic Fruit & Berry Program

Eligible Locations:

- Cities
- HOAs
- Schools
- Parks
- Municipal land

Purpose:

- Edible landscapes

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

- Public orchards
- Community resilience

XI. Program 3 — Pollinator Program

Eligible Participants:

- Cities
- Counties
- Schools
- Neighborhoods

Plant Types:

- Native wildflowers
- Milkweed
- Clover
- Native shrubs

Benefits:

- Increased yields
- Improved biodiversity
- Environmental resilience

XII. Program 4 — Small Livestock Program

Eligible Animals:

- Quail
- Chickens
- Rabbits
- Ducks (optional)

Not Eligible:

- Cattle
- Pigs
- Goats
- Sheep

No-Fee Personal Livestock Policy

- No licensing fees
- Personal-use allowed
- Humane standards apply

Community Livestock Programs

Eligible Locations:

- Schools
- Neighborhoods
- HOAs
- Community gardens

Benefits:

- Eggs
- Fertilizer
- Food access
- Education

XIII. Program 5 — School & Education Program

Schools may implement:

- Gardens
- Fruit trees
- Greenhouses
- Small livestock

Governance:

- School boards
- PTAs

Educational Benefits:

- Food literacy
- Nutrition education
- Responsibility

XIV. Program 6 — Community & Civic Garden Program

Encourages:

- Community gardens
- HOA gardens
- Municipal gardens

Benefits:

- Food access
- Community cohesion
- Education

XV. Governance Safeguards

The program must remain:

- Voluntary
- Non-partisan
- Lean
- Transparent

Program must not:

- Mandate participation
- Create excessive bureaucracy
- Restrict private agriculture

XVI. Expected Outcomes

Short-Term:

- Increased household food production
- Improved access to fresh food
- Reduced food insecurity

Long-Term:

- National distributed food resilience
- Increased agricultural literacy
- Stronger communities

XVII. Long-Term Vision

Over time:

- Millions of households growing food
- Public orchards nationwide
- Pollinator corridors established
- Small livestock adoption increases
- School agriculture programs expand

This creates:

Distributed National Food Resilience Infrastructure

XVIII. Fiscal Impact Analysis

Overview

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to be:

- Cost-efficient
- Economically stimulative
- Deficit-neutral (through reallocation)

- Long-term cost reducing

This section evaluates:

1. Household savings from the Starter Kit
2. Federal allocation cost
3. Potential funding reallocations
4. Economic benefits for local farmers and nurseries

XVIII-A — Household Savings Estimate

The American Resilience Garden Starter Kit is designed to produce high-value crops with minimal space.

Starter Kit Production Estimate

Strawberries (15 Ever-bearing Plants)

Typical yield per ever-bearing plant:

- 0.5–1 pound per plant per season

Conservative estimate:

- 0.75 lbs × 15 plants = 11.25 lbs annually

Average retail cost of strawberries:

- $3.50–$6.00 per pound (seasonal variation)

Conservative value:

- 11.25 lbs × $4.00 = $45/year

Seed Pack Production Estimate

Example yield from starter seeds:

Lettuce

- 2–4 lbs per season

Value:

- ~$10–$20

Tomatoes

- 8–15 lbs (container grown)

Value:

- ~$16–$45

Herbs

Typical annual savings:

- $10–$30

Green Onions

Typical annual savings:

- $8–$15

Conservative Total Household Savings

Category	Annual Value
Strawberries	$45
Lettuce	$15
Tomatoes	$25
Herbs	$15
Green onions	$10
Total Annual Savings	$110/year

Lifetime Savings

Starter kit equipment lifespan:

- 3–5 years (minimum)

Conservative 3-year estimate:

$110 × 3 = $330 household savings

Return on Investment

Government cost:

$50

Household savings:

$330 (3 years)

ROI = 6.6x return

XVIII-B — Federal Allocation Estimate

Total U.S. Households:

Approximately 128 million households

Source:

U.S. Census Bureau estimates

Maximum Full Deployment Cost

128 million households × $50 =

$6.4 billion total

Realistic Rollout Cost

Phased rollout reduces cost significantly.

Phase 1 (Food Deserts + Low Income)

Estimated:

~25 million households

25 million × $50 =

$1.25 billion

Phase 2 (Expanded Access)

Additional ~40 million households

40 million × $50 =

$2.0 billion

Phase 3 (Universal Access)

Remaining households

~63 million × $50 =

$3.15 billion

XVIII-C — Funding Reallocation Options

This program is designed to be funded through reallocation, not new taxes.

Below are examples of existing spending categories that could fund this initiative.

Option 1 — USDA Administrative Overhead Reduction

USDA annual budget:

~$200+ billion

Administrative overhead reduction:

1% reduction =

$2 billion available

Option 2 — Federal Food Waste Reduction Reallocation

Federal food waste programs:

Multiple overlapping programs across:

- USDA
- EPA
- HHS

Consolidation savings estimate:

$500 million – $1 billion

Option 3 — SNAP Pilot Offset

This program reduces long-term SNAP dependency.

SNAP annual budget:

~$110+ billion

0.5% reallocation:

= $550 million

Option 4 — Federal Grant Consolidation

Many small overlapping:

- Urban agriculture grants
- Community garden grants
- Food access grants

Consolidation estimate:

$500 million – $1 billion

Combined Conservative Funding Scenario

Source	Estimated Available
USDA overhead reduction	$2B
SNAP reallocation	$550M
Grant consolidation	$500M
Food waste program consolidation	$500M
Total Available	$3.55 billion

This is enough to fund:

- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Partial Phase 3

XVIII-D — Economic Benefits for Local Farmers

The American Resilience Garden Initiative prioritizes:

Local seed and plant sourcing

This creates direct economic support for local agriculture.

Starter Kit Demand Estimate

If Phase 1 distributes:

25 million starter kits

Each kit includes:

- Seeds
- Strawberry plants
- Soil materials

Strawberry Plant Demand

15 plants × 25 million households =

375 million strawberry plants

This creates:

- Massive nursery demand
- New agricultural jobs
- Regional plant production

Seed Demand

Estimated seed packs:

25 million households

This creates:

- Demand for seed growers
- Regional seed companies
- Local agricultural businesses

Estimated Economic Injection

Conservative estimate:

Average $20 of each kit goes to agricultural producers

25 million kits × $20 =

$500 million direct agricultural stimulus

Secondary Economic Benefits

Additional economic benefits include:

- Soil producers
- Compost facilities
- Nurseries
- Local farm supply companies
- Agricultural education programs

Long-Term Economic Benefits

Long-term outcomes:

- Reduced food costs
- Reduced food insecurity
- Increased local agriculture
- Increased agricultural jobs

XVIII-E — Long-Term Government Savings

Potential savings areas:

- Reduced SNAP dependency

- Reduced healthcare costs (nutrition improvements)
- Reduced emergency food assistance
- Increased local economic resilience

Even modest reductions generate:

Billions in long-term savings

Fiscal Impact Summary

Category	Impact
Household savings	~$110/year
Household 3-year savings	~$330
Program cost per household	$50
National full rollout cost	$6.4B
Phase 1 cost	$1.25B
Agricultural economic stimulus	~$500M
Long-term government savings	Billions

Fiscal Conclusion

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is:

- Low-cost
- High-return
- Economically stimulative
- Long-term cost reducing

This initiative represents a strategic investment in national resilience with strong fiscal justification.

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

Appendix A

Financial Implementation & Phased Funding Model

A.1 Purpose

This appendix provides additional detail regarding: - Phased funding implementation - Budget reallocation structure - State savings fund model - Long-term financial sustainability - Program expansion capacity The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to minimize fiscal burden while maximizing long-term economic and societal benefits.

A.2 Phased National Rollout Strategy

Rather than funding the entire initiative in a single fiscal year, the program is designed to roll out gradually over three fiscal years. This phased rollout: - Reduces budget impact - Allows program refinement - Improves efficiency - Builds infrastructure gradually - Allows state savings growth

A.2.1 Three-Year Rollout Model

Year 1 — Priority Rollout

Target populations: Urban food deserts Rural food deserts Low-income households Estimated households: ~25 million households Estimated funding: 25 million × $50 = $1.25 billion

Year 2 — Expanded Access

Target populations: Middle-income households Additional urban and rural areas Estimated households: ~40 million households Estimated funding: 40 million × $50 = $2.0 billion

Year 3 — Universal Access

Target populations: Remaining households Estimated households: ~63 million households Estimated funding: 63 million × $50 = $3.15 billion

A.3 Annual Budget Reallocation Model

Funding for the American Resilience Garden Initiative would be drawn from annual federal budget approvals rather than requiring new taxes or deficit spending. Each fiscal year: Congress approves annual funding Funds allocated to states States deposit funds into State Resilience Garden Funds This allows: Gradual funding Fiscal flexibility Program accountability

A.4 State Resilience Garden Fund Model

Each state establishes State Resilience Garden Fund. These funds operate as: Restricted-use accounts Interest-generating accounts Rollover funds

A.5 Compounding Growth Model

Because funds roll over and generate interest, states gradually build larger program capacity, emergency reserve funds, and expansion funding.

A.6 Long-Term Sustainability Model

Over time, funding sources shift from federal allocation to hybrid funding including state savings, interest earnings, local partnerships, and agricultural partnerships.

A.7 Safety Net Function

State Resilience Garden Funds may also function as Food Resilience Emergency Funds during natural disasters, supply chain disruptions, and food shortages.

A.8 Economic Stability Benefits

Gradual rollout provides predictable agricultural demand, stable seed production markets, stable nursery demand, and stable supply chain growth.

A.9 Program Expansion Capacity

As savings grow, states may expand fruit tree programs, berry shrub programs, pollinator corridors, school agriculture programs, and community gardens.

A.10 Long-Term Financial Outlook

Over time, the initiative transitions into self-sustaining resilience infrastructure.

A.11 Fiscal Responsibility Safeguards

Lean staffing, accountability, residency verification, phased rollout, and restricted-use funds ensure responsible spending.

Appendix A Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative uses phased rollout, budget reallocations, state savings funds, and long-term sustainability mechanisms to remain scalable and resilient.

Appendix B
Implementation Timeline & Phased Rollout Model

B.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- National rollout timeline
- Annual funding allocation
- Annual program expenditures
- Surplus carryover model
- Multi-year financial growth

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to begin each year in March (Spring) to maximize planting success and program adoption.

B.2 Annual Rollout Schedule

Each year follows a standardized national schedule:

January–February
- Federal funding approved
- Funds allocated to states
- States prepare logistics
- Counties and municipalities prepare rollout

March–June
- Starter kit rollout begins
- Priority populations served first
- Distribution centers activated

July–September
- Secondary distribution phase
- Additional households served
- Program monitoring

October–December
- Program evaluation
- Surplus calculation
- Funds carried into next year

B.3 Three-Year National Rollout Model

The program is designed for a three-year national rollout.

This allows:

- Gradual funding
- Supply chain growth
- Program refinement
- Fiscal responsibility

B.4 Funding Model Assumptions

Estimated U.S. Households:

~128 million households

Starter Kit Allocation:

$50 per household

Total Full Program Cost:

128 million × $50 = $6.4 billion

B.5 Year-by-Year Rollout Financial Model

Year 1 — March Rollout

Priority:

- Urban food deserts
- Rural food deserts
- Low-income households

Households Served:

25 million households

Federal Allocation:

$1.5 billion

Program Cost:

25 million × $50 = $1.25 billion

Year 1 Surplus:

$250 million

Year 1 Ending Fund:

$250 million

Year 2 — March Rollout

Starting Fund:

$250 million (carryover)

Federal Allocation:

$2.25 billion

Total Available:

$2.5 billion

Households Served:

40 million households

Program Cost:

40 million × $50 = $2.0 billion

Year 2 Surplus:

$500 million

Year 2 Ending Fund:

$500 million

Year 3 — March Rollout

Starting Fund:

$500 million

Federal Allocation:

$3.5 billion

Total Available:

$4.0 billion

Households Served:

63 million households

Program Cost:

63 million × $50 = $3.15 billion

Year 3 Surplus:

$850 million

Year 3 Ending Fund:

$850 million

B.6 Post-Rollout Annual Model

After national rollout completion:

Annual funding requirements decrease significantly.

Future funding used for:

- New households
- Replacement kits
- Expansion programs
- Education programs
- Pollinator expansion
- Fruit tree expansion

Estimated annual maintenance funding:

$300 million — $800 million nationally

B.7 Annual March Rollout Model

Each year:

March becomes:

American Resilience Gardening Month

During March:

- New kits distributed
- New households enrolled
- Education programs begin
- Schools begin planting season

This creates:

- National awareness
- Seasonal consistency
- Cultural adoption

B.8 Local Implementation Timeline

January–February
State Planning
County Coordination
Supply Procurement

March
Primary Distribution Begins

April–May
Peak Distribution Period

June–July
Late Distribution & Support

August–December
Evaluation & Planning

B.9 Surplus Carryover Model

Unused funds each year:

- Remain in state resilience fund
- Carry forward to next year
- Increase program stability

This ensures:

- No funding waste
- Improved long-term sustainability
- Financial safety buffer

B.10 Long-Term Financial Stability

After full rollout:

States accumulate:

- Emergency food resilience funds
- Expansion funding
- Agricultural partnership funding

This creates:

- Long-term resilience
- Reduced future funding needs
- Scalable expansion capability

Appendix B Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative:

- Begins rollout each March
- Uses phased three-year rollout
- Uses federal allocation with surplus carryover
- Builds long-term financial stability
- Creates annual national gardening culture

Appendix C
Starter Kit Specifications & Supply Chain Model

C.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- Starter kit specifications
- Container design standards
- Seed selection guidelines
- Strawberry system specifications
- Supply chain strategy
- Local agricultural partnerships
- Domestic manufacturing standards

The American Resilience Garden Starter Kit is designed to be:

- Simple
- Accessible
- Productive
- Nutritionally beneficial
- Regionally adaptable
- Economically supportive

C.2 American Resilience Garden Starter Kit Components

Each household receives:

Core Starter Kit

1. Raised container (standardized volume)
2. Compost/soil/perlite growing blend
3. Seed package (6 categories)
4. 5-gallon strawberry bucket with side planting pockets
5. 15 ever-bearing strawberry plants

C.3 Container Specifications

To accommodate various living environments, states may offer multiple container shapes while maintaining standardized volume.

This allows flexibility for:

- Apartments
- Balconies
- Small yards
- Urban patios
- Suburban yards
- Rural homes

C.3.1 Container Shape Options

States may offer:

- Square containers
- Rectangular containers
- Narrow rectangular containers
- Corner containers

All container options must maintain:

- Equal soil volume
- Equal productivity capacity
- Equal compost/soil allocation

This ensures fairness and consistency across households.

C.3.2 Container Manufacturing Standards

Containers must:

- Be manufactured in the United States
- Use recycled materials where possible
- Be durable for multi-year use
- Be lightweight and accessible
- Be safe for food production

States are encouraged to:

- Partner with local manufacturers
- Encourage state-level manufacturing
- Promote recycled plastic production

C.4 Soil Blend Specifications

Each container receives:

Standardized growing medium:

- Compost
- Soil
- Aeration material (perlite or equivalent)

Blend goals:

- Good drainage
- Nutrient-rich
- Beginner-friendly
- Consistent performance

C.4.1 Local Compost Partnerships

States and municipalities may:

- Partner with local compost facilities
- Utilize municipal compost programs
- Utilize agricultural compost sources

C.5 Seed Package Specifications

Each starter kit includes six seed categories:

C.5.1 Required Seed Categories

1. Leafy Green (Nutrient Density)
2. Tomato or Pepper (Flavor)
3. Summer Squash (High Productivity)
4. Legume (Protein)
5. Herb or Herb Variety Pack (Flavor)
6. Pollinator Magnet (Edible if possible)

C.5.2 Regional Adaptation

Seed varieties vary by:

- State
- Climate zone
- Growing season
- Regional conditions

C.5.3 Household Choice Model

States may offer:

- Multiple seed options per category
- Household selection options
- Regional seed bundles

C.6 Strawberry Production System

Each household receives:

- One food-grade 5-gallon bucket
- Pre-made planting holes
- 15 ever-bearing strawberry plants

C.6.1 Strawberry Bucket Specifications

Bucket must:

- Be food-grade
- Be durable
- Include side planting pockets
- Be suitable for outdoor growing

C.6.2 Strawberry Variety Selection

Each state offers:

Three ever-bearing strawberry varieties

Households may choose:

- All one variety (15 plants)
- 5 of each variety
- Any mix between the three varieties

C.7 Local Agricultural Partnerships

States partner with:

- Local seed farms
- Local nurseries
- Local strawberry growers
- Local agricultural producers

C.7.1 In-State Production Requirement

Seeds and strawberry plants:

- Must be grown within the state
- Must not be sourced across state lines

This does not prevent residents from purchasing additional seeds or plants independently.

C.8 Year 1 Production Planning

Seeds and strawberry plants should be:

- Planned prior to Year 1 rollout
- Grown in advance
- Harvested prior to distribution

C.9 Domestic Manufacturing Priority

Program materials should prioritize:

- U.S. manufacturing
- State-level manufacturing
- Recycled materials

C.10 Supply Chain Stability Model

Gradual rollout allows:

- Predictable production demand
- Stable agricultural partnerships
- Stable manufacturing growth

Appendix C Summary

The American Resilience Garden Starter Kit:

- Uses standardized container volume
- Uses regionally adapted seeds
- Includes six food categories
- Includes strawberry production system
- Supports local agriculture
- Supports domestic manufacturing
- Builds resilient supply chains

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

Appendix D
Agricultural and Economic Impact

D.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- Agricultural impact
- Economic impact
- Local farmer benefits
- Farmers market expansion
- Grocery store impacts
- Supply chain resilience
- Long-term agricultural diversification

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to strengthen agriculture, not replace it.

D.2 Strengthening American Agriculture

The initiative is designed to:

- Support farmers
- Expand local agriculture
- Increase agricultural diversity
- Reduce monoculture risks
- Improve regional food security

D.3 Local Farmer Partnerships

Farmers benefit through:

- Seed production contracts
- Seed harvesting
- Strawberry plant production
- Nursery partnerships
- Fruit tree production
- Berry shrub production

D.4 Expansion of Small and Mid-Sized Farms

The program creates opportunities for:

- Small farms
- Mid-sized farms
- Specialty growers
- Seed growers
- Nursery growers

D.5 Seed Production Expansion

Seed production demand increases for:

- Leafy greens
- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Squash
- Legumes
- Herbs
- Pollinator plants

D.6 Strawberry Production Expansion

Each state produces ever-bearing strawberries creating nursery expansion and local agricultural growth.

D.7 Farmers Market Growth

Farmers markets may experience:

- Increased participation
- Increased variety
- Increased local food awareness
- Increased community engagement

D.8 Community Produce Exchange

Communities may develop:

- Produce exchanges
- Local swap networks
- Neighborhood food sharing

D.9 Grocery Store Impacts

Grocery stores may experience:

- Increased demand for fresh foods
- Increased demand for local foods
- Increased demand for seasonal foods

D.10 Supply Chain Resilience

Distributed food production reduces supply chain stress and improves food security.

D.11 Agricultural Diversification

The initiative encourages crop diversity and regional adaptation.

D.12 Economic Multiplier Effect

Program spending supports:

- Local farmers
- Local manufacturers

- Local compost producers
- Local nurseries

D.13 New Agricultural Business Opportunities

The initiative may encourage:

- Seed companies
- Local nurseries
- Garden supply businesses
- Compost operations

D.14 Long-Term Agricultural Benefits

Long-term outcomes include:

- Stronger regional agriculture
- Increased agricultural diversity
- Increased food resilience
- Improved food access

Appendix D Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative strengthens farmers, communities, and local economies while improving national food resilience.

Appendix E
Backyard Livestock & Small-Scale Animal Husbandry

E.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- Backyard livestock opportunities
- Small-space animal options
- Agricultural benefits
- Waste reduction benefits
- Fertility and soil benefits
- Animal welfare considerations
- Local sourcing recommendations

Backyard livestock is intended to:

- Improve food resilience
- Improve food quality
- Reduce waste
- Increase household self-sufficiency
- Support local agricultural producers

Backyard livestock is optional and dependent on:

- Local regulations
- Available space
- Household interest

E.2 Small-Space Livestock Options

Recommended animals:

- Chickens
- Quail
- Rabbits
- Ducks

E.3 Chickens

Uses:

- Eggs
- Meat
- Fertilizer (manure)
- Pest control
- Food scrap recycling
- Feathers

General Requirements:

- Secure coop

- Outdoor run or yard space
- Fresh water
- Balanced feed
- Nesting boxes
- Predator protection

Best Backyard Chicken Varieties:

- Plymouth Rock
- Rhode Island Red
- Australorp
- Wyandotte
- Orpington

E.4 Quail

Uses:

- Eggs
- Meat
- Fertilizer

General Requirements:

- Small enclosure
- Predator protection
- Feed and water
- Shelter from weather

Recommended Quail Varieties:

- Coturnix quail
- Japanese quail

E.5 Rabbits

Uses:

- Meat
- Fertilizer
- Fur (optional)

General Requirements:

- Hutch or enclosure
- Shade
- Fresh water
- Hay and feed
- Predator protection

Recommended Rabbit Varieties:

- New Zealand
- Californian
- Rex
- Mini Rex

E.6 Ducks

Uses:

- Eggs
- Meat
- Fertilizer
- Pest control

General Requirements:

- Shelter
- Water access
- Feed
- Predator protection

Recommended Duck Varieties:

- Khaki Campbell
- Runner Ducks
- Welsh Harlequin

E.7 Fertilizer and Soil Benefits

Backyard livestock provide:

- Natural fertilizer
- Compost material
- Soil fertility improvement

E.8 Food Waste Reduction

Backyard livestock can consume:

- Vegetable scraps
- Garden waste
- Food scraps (appropriate items only)

E.9 Local Sourcing Recommendations

Backyard livestock should be sourced from:

- Local breeders
- Local farms
- Local hatcheries

E.10 Animal Welfare Standards

Backyard livestock should:

- Have adequate space
- Have clean water
- Have proper nutrition
- Have predator protection
- Have weather protection

Appendix E Summary

Backyard livestock improve food resilience, provide eggs and meat, reduce waste, and support local agriculture.

Appendix F
Long-Term Expansion Framework

F.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- Long-term program expansion
- Use of surplus funds
- Use of interest-generated funding
- Fruit tree expansion
- Berry shrub expansion
- Pollinator expansion
- Continued local agricultural partnerships

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to grow gradually over time as funds accumulate and program success is demonstrated.

F.2 Long-Term Expansion Philosophy

After the initial rollout of the American Resilience Garden Starter Kit, the program transitions into long-term expansion phases.

These expansions are funded through:

- Surplus funds
- State savings funds
- Interest-generated growth
- Reduced long-term program costs

F.3 Fruit Tree Expansion Program

As funding becomes available, states may provide:

- One dwarf fruit tree per household
- Optional participation for households
- Regionally appropriate varieties

F.3.1 Recommended Tree Types

Recommended categories:

- Apples
- Pears
- Peaches
- Plums
- Apricots
- Persimmons
- Other regionally appropriate fruits

F.3.2 Multi-Grafted Fruit Trees

Where appropriate, states are encouraged to provide multi-grafted fruit trees.

Benefits include:

- Multiple fruit varieties
- Extended harvest season
- Greater household reward
- Better pollination

F.4 Berry Shrub Expansion

States may also provide container-friendly berry shrubs:

- Blueberries
- Raspberries
- Blackberries
- Currants
- Gooseberries
- Other regionally appropriate berries

F.5 Pollinator Expansion Program

States may provide:

- Pollinator plant bundles
- Native flowering plants
- Pollinator habitat kits

F.6 Local Agricultural Partnerships

Fruit trees, berry shrubs, and pollinator plants should be sourced from:

- Local nurseries
- Local farms
- Local growers
- Local agricultural producers

F.7 Gradual Expansion Model

Phase 1:
Fruit Trees

Phase 2:
Berry Shrubs

Phase 3:
Pollinator Plants

Phase 4:
Community Orchards

F.8 Community Expansion Opportunities

States and municipalities may also develop:

- Community orchards
- Neighborhood berry plantings
- Pollinator corridors
- Public edible landscapes

F.9 Long-Term Program Sustainability

As expansion occurs, the program transitions into National Food Resilience Infrastructure.

Appendix F Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative expands gradually over time, supports local agriculture, and builds long-term food resilience.

Appendix G
Education & Curriculum Integration

G.1 Purpose

This appendix outlines:

- Educational impact
- Curriculum integration
- School garden programs
- School livestock programs
- Nutrition education improvements
- Adult education opportunities
- Community education programs

The American Resilience Garden Initiative is designed to create long-term educational benefits that improve:

- Nutrition knowledge
- Biological understanding
- Agricultural literacy
- Food resilience
- Life skills

G.2 Broad Educational Goals

Educational goals include:

- Improved nutrition understanding
- Understanding of plant biology
- Understanding of animal husbandry
- Understanding of soil science
- Understanding of ecosystems
- Understanding of food systems

G.3 School Garden Programs

Schools are encouraged to develop:

- School gardens
- Raised bed gardens
- Container gardens
- Greenhouse programs

G.4 School Livestock Programs

Where appropriate, schools may incorporate:

- Chickens
- Quail
- Rabbits
- Ducks

G.5 Nutrition Education Improvements

Schools should strengthen nutrition education including:

- Whole foods
- Fresh produce
- Balanced diets
- Food preparation
- Food preservation

G.6 School Meal Improvements

Where possible, schools may:

- Utilize school garden produce
- Partner with local farms
- Introduce fresh produce options

G.7 Biological Systems Education

Students should gain understanding of:

- Plant biology
- Animal biology
- Soil science
- Earth sciences
- Ecosystems

G.8 Urban, Suburban, and Rural Variation

Urban Schools:
- Container gardens
- Rooftop gardens
- Indoor growing systems

Suburban Schools:
- Raised beds
- Small livestock programs

Rural Schools:
- Larger gardens
- Livestock programs
- Orchard programs

G.9 School Board and PTA Support

Implementation should include:

- School board approval
- PTA participation
- Community volunteer involvement

G.10 Adult Education Programs

Communities may offer:

- Gardening classes
- Livestock care classes
- Food preservation classes
- Soil improvement classes

G.11 Educational Incentives

Teaching and participation may offer:

- High school credits
- College credits
- Community service credits

G.12 No-Cost Educational Access

Adult education programs should be:

- Free to attend
- Community supported
- Locally organized

G.13 Long-Term Educational Benefits

Educational integration leads to:

- Improved health outcomes
- Improved food literacy
- Improved life skills
- Improved community resilience

Appendix G Summary

The American Resilience Garden Initiative integrates with education systems and improves long-term food resilience and public health.

© TheOrderedLiberty — CC BY 4.0 — Attrib

Attribution & Public Use License

This document was created and originally published by **TheOrderedLiberty**. It is intended for public reading, discussion, sharing, and adaptation in service of civic understanding and constructive dialogue.

Primary publication channels:
Instagram: **@TheOrderedLiberty**
Substack: **https://theorderedliberty.substack.com**

License

This work is licensed under the **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0)**.

What This Means (Plain Language)

You are free to share this document in full or in part, quote it, adapt it, or build upon its ideas, for any purpose and in any medium or format.

The sole requirement: Proper attribution must be given to **TheOrderedLiberty** as the original source.

Attribution Should Include

• The name **TheOrderedLiberty**
• The document title (if available)
• A link to the original publication, where possible

Attribution Example

“Originally published by TheOrderedLiberty. Licensed under CC BY 4.0.”

Authorship & Integrity

While adaptation and reuse are encouraged, no individual or organization may claim authorship of this work or its original framework without explicit permission from TheOrderedLiberty.

First published by **TheOrderedLiberty**
Publication date: 3/30/26